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1981/06/17

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WE INDICATED TO THE CHINESE THAT THE PRESIDENT INTENDS TO MOVE IN THE DIRECTION OF EXAMINING REQUESTS FOR THE TRANSFER OF MILITARY WEAPONS AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE SAME MANNER AS WE DO WITH OTHER FRIENDLY NATIONS WITH WHOM WE DO NOT HAVE AN ADVERSARIAL RELATIONSHIP. I WILL, OF COURSE, DISCUSS THIS WITH YOU MORE FULLY AND IN MORE DETAIL IN MANILA, BUT I WISH TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THERE WERE NO SPECIFIC DECISIONS MADE ON THIS ISSUE IN BEIJING AND NO CONCRETE DISCUSSIONS OF ANY WEAPON SALES TOOK PLACE. RATHER IT IS OUR INTENTION TO MOVE INTO THIS SENSITIVE AREA ONLY WITH THE GREATEST CAUTION AND ONLY AFTER FULL CONSULTATIONS WITH OUR ALLIES, WITH OUR FRIENDS AND WITH OUR OWN CONGRESS. WE EXPECT THAT THE CHINESE MAY RAISE THIS ISSUE DURING THE FORTHCOMING VISIT OF PEOPLE'S LIBERALIZATION ARMY VICE CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF LIU HUAQING IN AUGUST.

--I LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING THESE DISCUSSIONS WITH YOU IN MANILA, TO HEARING THE RESULTS OF THE VISIT THAT YOU AND PRIME MINISTER SUZUKI MADE TO EUROPE, AND TO REVIEWING ISSUES RELATED TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON KAMPUCHEA. HAIG

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